

**Maine Revised Statutes**  
**Title 22: HEALTH AND WELFARE**  
**Chapter 401: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**§1716. CHARITY CARE GUIDELINES**

The department shall adopt reasonable guidelines for policies to be adopted and implemented by hospitals with respect to the provision of health care services to patients who are determined unable to pay for the services received. The department shall adopt income guidelines that are consistent with the guidelines applicable to the Hill-Burton Program established under 42 United States Code, Section 291, et seq. (1995). The guidelines and policies must include the requirement that upon admission or, in cases of emergency admission, before discharge of a patient, hospitals must investigate the coverage of the patient by any insurance or state or federal programs of medical assistance. The guidelines must include provisions for notice to the public and the opportunity for a fair hearing regarding eligibility for charity care. [1995, c. 653, Pt. B, §7 (NEW); 1995, c. 653, Pt. B, §8 (AFF); 1995, c. 696, Pt. A, §36 (NEW).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

1995, c. 653, §B7 (NEW). 1995, c. 653, §B8 (AFF). 1995, c. 696, §A36 (NEW).

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